



# Saguaro National Park (East)

## Naturalist Program Schedule

---

Programs meet at the Rincon Mountain Visitor Center, 3693 S. Old Spanish Trail. Program schedules are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5153 for updates or to make *RESERVATIONS*.

*Programs marked with an \* are wheelchair accessible.*

### March 7 – March 13, 2011

#### Monday, March 7

**9:00 a.m. Cowboys in the Rincon Valley**

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 2 ½-mile hike to explore the history and nature of the Rincon Valley. Meet at the visitor center, and then caravan to the Hope Camp Trail. Wear comfortable hiking shoes, a hat and bring water and a trail snack

**11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations\***

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment.

#### Tuesday, March 8

**9:00 a.m. Desert Morning Hike**

Join a park naturalist for this 3-hour, 4-mile exploration of Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

**10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles**

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

**11:00 a.m. Natural History Table\***

Join a park naturalist on the visitor center patio to have your questions answered about the natural history of the Sonoran Desert. This is an on-going, 30-minute program.

**2:30 p.m. Reptiles and Amphibians of the Sonoran Desert\***

Join park naturalist Bob Brandner for this 30-minute presentation to discover the fascinating world of reptiles and amphibians.

#### Wednesday, March 9

**9:00 a.m. Desert Morning Hike**

Join a park naturalist for this 3-hour, 4-mile exploration of Saguaro National Park. Wear sturdy hiking shoes and bring water and a trail snack.

**10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery**

Join park naturalists on this two-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

**2:00 p.m. With or Without Water**

Join a park ranger on this 2-mile, 2-hour hike to discover how seasonal rains impact Saguaro national park and you.

**3:00 p.m. Gathering the Desert\***

Join a park ranger in the Cactus Garden for an easy 30-minute stroll to learn how desert plants have been used for food, shelter, and clothing.

#### Thursday, March 10

**9:00 a.m. Saguaro National Park: A Common Heritage\***

This 20-minute video explores the history and heritage of those who settled the Tanque Verde and Rincon Valleys.

**10:00 a.m. Desert Discovery**

Join park naturalists on this two-hour, 2-mile walk to discover the secrets of the Sonoran Desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

**3:00 p.m. The Cactus Forest Drive: Something for Everyone\***

Join a park naturalist in the visitor center to discover the variety of experiences awaiting you along our scenic drive.

**7:00 p.m. Charismatic Herpetofauna: Gila Monsters\***

Join field biologist Brian Park in the visitor center auditorium as he shares the natural history of the only venomous lizard in Northern America. Get your questions answered about the amazing Gila Monster. Reservations can be made by calling (520) 733-5153.

**Friday, March 11**

**8:00 a.m. Desert Bird Walk**

Join volunteer naturalists Vicki Powers and Ralph Terry for an easy 2-hour walk in search of desert birds. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

**9:00 a.m. Cowboys in the Rincon Valley**

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 2 ½-mile hike to explore the history and nature of the Rincon Valley. Meet at the visitor center, and then caravan to the Hope Camp Trail. Wear comfortable hiking shoes, a hat and bring water and a trail snack.

**10:00 a.m. Sonoran Lifestyles**

Join a park naturalist on this 2-hour, 1-mile walk to discover how plants and animals adapt to life in the desert. Wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

**11:00 a.m. Desert Adaptations\***

Join a park naturalist on this 30-minute garden walk to learn how plants have unique ways of adapting to their desert environment.

**7:00 p.m. Night Walk**

Join a park naturalist for this easy two-hour hike to explore and experience the Sonoran Desert at night. Dress for the weather, wear comfortable walking shoes, and bring water and a flashlight. As space is limited, *advanced reservations are required*, and can be made by calling 733-5153.

**Saturday, March 12**

**10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Fiesta de Saguaro\***

Join Saguaro National Park as we celebrate our Hispanic heritage, history and culture. A full day of activities is planned, including craft demonstrators, Mariachi music and folklorico dancers, special presentations, and children's arts and crafts. Traditional Mexican food will be available for purchase. Free shuttle service will be offered from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. from the Saguaro Baptist Church (northeast corner of Houghton Road and Old Spanish Trail). *Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5153 for more information.*

**Sunday, March 13**

**11:00 a.m. Saguaro National Park: A Common Heritage\***

This 20-minute video explores the history and heritage of those who settled the Tanque Verde and Rincon

**2:00 p.m. Yesterday, Today and...Saguaro? (The Walk)**

Change is coming to the Cactus Forest and we can't do anything about it! But don't worry – change has been happening here for thousands of years. Come explore the life cycles of the saguaro cactus and the changing face of its Sonoran Desert home on this ¼ mile, 90-minute walk.